4. Wild Orissa
5. Orissa Krushak Samaj
6. Orissa Environmental Conservation Society (OECS), Burla
7. O P E N, Sambalpur
8. One World Foundation
9. Project Swarjya
10. Brukhya Jiberabandhu Parishad-Badhagram (Nagar)
11. Regional Centre for Development Co-operation, Bhubaneshwar

(c) Government of Orissa has recently instituted awards for institutions working in the field of wild life conservation.

(d) The State Government has involved several NGOs working in the field of wild life conservation, ecodevelopment, research and awareness programmes for achieving better results.

Wildlife trafficking

201. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of incidents are often reported in newspapers regarding trafficking in wildlife, if so, whether Government have taken any concrete steps to combat wildlife trafficking in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of persons arrested for wildlife trafficking since January, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Cases of trafficking in wildlife are reported in the newspapers from time to time. Steps taken by the Government to combat wildlife trafficking are at statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Control of poaching and illegal trade is the responsibility of the State Governments. The details of persons arrested for wildlife trafficking are not compiled and collated by the Central Government. Number of persons arrested since January, 2001 in a few important cases is at statement-II (*See* below).

Statement-I

Steps taken by the Government to combat wildlife trafficking are:

(1) *Steps taken at the State level:*

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) *Steps taken at National level:*

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

(iii) Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tigar, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Items supported in the schemes include creation of 'Strike Forces', providing arms, mobiles and communication facilities to the protection staff and rewards to the informers.

(iv) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forest, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(v) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(vi) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) *Steps taken at International level*:

(i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

(ii) To control transhoundary trade protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and a MOU has been signed with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

(iii) 'Global Tigar Forum of Tiger' has been created for addressing international issues related to Tigar Conservation.

Statement-II

The details of important seizure along with number of persons arrested

S.No.	Details	Date of seizure	Persons arrested
1.	Seizure of tiger skin and 2 leopard skins at Atria (Lucknow)	15.1.2001	Two
2.	Seizure of 70 shawls, 26 pure shahtorh and 44 suspected shahtoosh shawls at Delhi	2.2.2001	Two
3.	Seizure of 1 tiger skin at Palia (Kheri) Uttar pradesh	15.2.2001	Six
4.	Seizure of 1 nos. of tiger skin, 5 nos. of tiger skulls, 10 nos. of tiger claws, 23 kgs. of tiger bones, 3 nos. of tiger teeth and 4 nos. of leopard skins at Nagpur	21.3.2001	Six
5.	Seizure of 1 tiger skin and 10 leopard skins at Kanpur	28.4.2001	Four
6.	Seizure of 1 tiger skin at Philibit	7.5.2001	Two
7.	Seizure of 20 kg. of tiger bones at Kheri	20.5.2001	Three
8.	Seizure of one tiger skin in South Kheri	13.6.2001	Four

S.No.	Details	Date of seizure	Persons arrested
9.	Seizure of 8 kgs. tiger bones and 1 tiger skull at Malani Range (Dudhwa National park)	10.7.2001	Five
10.	Seizure of one leopard skin, 2 pcs. of, ivory one pair of stag horns by Bijnor Police	5.9.2001	Three
11.	Seizure of one tiger skin by Police in Kheri	2.12.2001	One

Migratory birds in Chilka Lake

202. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nalabana Island in Chilka Lake in Orissa has been a favourite spot for 165 species of migratory birds, including international species, specially during every winter;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 15 per cent out of 80 per cent of bird visitors have flocked the island this time;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken to make Nalabana a favourite spot for inter-continental species of migratory birds?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As reported by the State Government, 91 migratory species of birds have been reported inside the sanctuary during this year. But there has been nearly 41% decline in the number of migratory birds from the previous year. No specific reasons for this decline have been ascertained so far.

(d) Bombay Natural History Society has been entrusted to carry out a detailed study on the migratory behavior of various bird species.

Pollution in Yamuna between Wazirabad and Okhla

203. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: